

United States Patent and Trademark Office

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMME United States Patent and Trademark Office Address COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

ATTY. DOCKET NO. FIRST NAMED APPLICANT U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO. TS1138US Thomas Shawn Dewitz

10/521,509

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

PCT/US03/22294

I.A. FILING DATE 07/17/2003

PRIORITY DATE 07/19/2002

23632 SHELL OIL COMPANY P O BOX 2463 HOUSTON, TX 772522463

CONFIRMATION NO. 1987 371 ACCEPTANCE LETTER

OC00000017633939

Date Mailed: 12/16/2005

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C 371 AND 37 CFR 1.495

The applicant is hereby advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as a Designated / Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495), has determined that the above identified international application has met the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371, and is ACCEPTED for national patentability examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The United States Application Number assigned to the application is shown above and the relevant dates are:

07/13/2005

DATE OF RECEIPT OF 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS

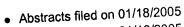
07/13/2005

DATE OF COMPLETION OF ALL 35 U.S.C. 371 REQUIREMENTS

A Filing Receipt (PTO-103X) will be issued for the present application in due course. THE DATE APPEARING ON THE FILING RECEIPT AS THE "FILING DATE" IS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LAST OF THE 35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE. THIS DATE IS SHOWN ABOVE. The filing date of the above identified application is the international filing date of the international application (Article 11(3) and 35 U.S.C. 363). Once the Filing Receipt has been received, send all correspondence to the Group Art Unit designated thereon.

The following items have been received:

- Copy of the International Application filed on 01/18/2005
- Copy of the International Search Report filed on 01/18/2005
- Copy of IPE Report filed on 01/18/2005
- Copy of Annexes to the IPER filed on 01/18/2005
- Preliminary Amendments filed on 01/18/2005
- Information Disclosure Statements filed on 01/18/2005
- Oath or Declaration filed on 07/13/2005
- U.S. Basic National Fees filed on 01/18/2005
- Assignment filed on 07/13/2005
- Specification filed on 01/18/2005
- Claims filed on 01/18/2005



Drawings filed on 01/18/2005

Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

KAREN R MCLEAN
Telephone: (703) 308-9140 EXT 214

PART 3 - OFFICE COPY

FORM PCT/DO/EO/903 (371 Acceptance Notice)